



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental
Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114-2119

Deval L. Patrick
GOVERNOR

Timothy P. Murray
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Ian A. Bowles
SECRETARY

Tel: (617) 626-1000
Fax: (617) 626-1181
<http://www.mass.gov/envir>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: April 27, 2007

Contact: Lisa Capone
(617) 626-1119

EOEEA Secretary Bowles Bestows Annual Environmental Education Awards

BOSTON – From creating nature trails and identifying vernal pools to learning to recycle and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, schools from Cape Cod to the Berkshires went above and beyond the required science curriculum to boost environmental literacy this year. Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Ian Bowles recognized their efforts today, presenting the 13th Annual Secretary's Awards for Excellence in Environmental Education at a State House ceremony.

Twenty-six schools received awards ranging from \$100 to \$500, to be used to advance programs and projects in winning classrooms. The awards are jointly funded by the Massachusetts Environmental Trust (revenue from the purchase of environmental logo license plates), and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Clean Environment Fund (unredeemed deposits on returnable bottles and cans). In addition to cash awards to schools, Secretary Bowles presented Certificates of Excellence to environmental education programs offered by three non-profit organizations based in Hawley, Lowell, and Provincetown.

Classroom awards went to teachers and students from Ashburnham, Boston, Cambridge, Framingham, Harwich, Leominster, Lexington, Marstons Mills, Nantucket, Newburyport, North Attleboro, Pepperell, Petersham, Plymouth, Princeton, Quincy, Somerville, Spencer, Taunton, and Townsend. (A complete list of awardees is attached.) Each year, the award ceremony is held close to Earth Day - April 22 - to highlight the importance of acting locally to protect the environment.

"As Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, everyday is like Earth Day in my job," Bowles said. "So, I'm delighted to honor the Commonwealth's future environmental leaders, as well as the teachers who are helping to shape those leaders."

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) solicited Excellence in Environmental Education Award nominations from December 2006 to March 2007. Schools and organizations that voluntarily incorporate environmental education into public or private school curricula are eligible for awards. A 30-member Secretary's Advisory Group on Environmental Education, comprising environmental educators for state agencies, non-profits, industry and academia, scored the projects earlier this month.

13th Annual Secretary's Awards for Excellence in Environmental Education
2007 Award Recipients

ASHBURNHAM:	Oakmont Regional High School <i>Environmental Education Program</i> Dr. Shirley Griffin
ASHBURNHAM/ PETERSHAM	Harvard Forest in partnership with J. R. Briggs Elementary School and Nashua River Watershed Association <i>Harvard Forest Schoolyard Ecology/EIC</i>
BOSTON:	Thomas Gardner Elementary School, Allston <i>Outdoor Classroom Program</i> Dean Martin
BOSTON:	Louis Agassiz School, Jamaica Plain <i>Earthworks in the Boston Public Schools</i>
CAMBRIDGE:	Maynard Ecology Center in partnership with the Cambridge Public Schools Science Department <i>Maynard Ecology Center School Program</i>
CAMBRIDGE:	CitySprouts in the Cambridge Public Schools <i>Sustainable Gardens Program</i>
FRAMINGHAM:	Stapleton School <i>Recycling at Stapleton School</i> Mandy Couturier and Sarah Schoolcraft
HARWICH:	Cape Cod Regional Technical High School <i>Green Beans-Don't stop us, we are saving the World!</i> Lynn Fleischer with the Junior and Senior Earth Science Students
HAWLEY	Student Conservation Association in partnership with the Massachusetts Service Alliance and the Department of Conservation and Recreation <i>Massachusetts Parks AmeriCorps</i>
LEOMINSTER:	Fall Brook Elementary School <i>Monoosnoc Brook Greenway Project</i> Pete Lanza
LEXINGTON:	Lexington High School <i>The Lexington Challenge: Reducing Greenhouse Gas Pollution</i>

LEXINGTON:	Minuteman Regional High School <i>Environmental Technology Program</i>
LOWELL:	River Ambassador Program (RAP), sponsored by the University of Massachusetts Lowell Center for Family, Work and Community
MARSTONS MILLS:	Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School <i>Globing the Waters of Barnstable</i> Celine Ritzo, Dominic Botolino, Jen Caron, Jim Cooke, Andy Gauthier, Deb Hennessey, Chris Kramer, Kelly Lodowsky, Laurel McCarthy, Sue Soares and Gail Stone
NANTUCKET:	Nantucket New School <i>5th Grade Ecology</i> Chris Getoor
NEWBURYPORT:	River Valley Charter School <i>17th Century Herb Garden</i> Germaine Koomen and Grades 1, 2 and 3
NEWBURYPORT:	Rupert A. Nock Middle School <i>The Great Marsh and Colonial Heritage Gardens at the Nock/Courtyard Renovation in honor of Nickoletta Staszewski</i>
NORTH ATTLEBORO:	Falls Elementary School <i>Vernal Pool Project</i> Noreen Kiff and 4 th Grade Class
PEPPERELL:	Nissitissit Middle School <i>Life Science Class</i> William J. Pineda
PETERSHAM:	See Ashburnham (Harvard Forest in partnership with J. R. Briggs Elementary in Ashburnham)
PETERSHAM:	Petersham Center School <i>Schoolyard Ecology Program</i> Nichole Ruggles, Wendie LeBlanc, Maureen Donelan
PLYMOUTH:	Plymouth Community Intermediate School <i>HOWL (Helping Others While Learning)</i> Warren Phillips
PLYMOUTH:	Plymouth North High School <i>Life Skills Program</i>

PRINCETON: Thomas Prince School
Nature Trail
Joann Blum and the Trail Team

PROVINCETOWN: MassSail in partnership with the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies and the Ocean Classroom Foundation
Marine Education Programs

QUINCY: Reay E. Sterling Middle School
Greenhouse Education
Robert L. McGillicuddy, Jr. and George DePaulo

SOMERVILLE: Somerville Community Growing Center in partnership with Somerville Public Schools and Tufts University
The Somerville Maple Syrup Project
Claire Kozower and Maisie Ganz

SPENCER: David Prouty High School
The Envirothon Team

TAUNTON: Taunton High School
Women In Technology Program

TOWNSEND: Squannacook Elementary School
Think Before You Throw

###